



Kanétskare Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

222 Robinson Street
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1Z9
Phone: 905.528.7975
Fax: 905.528.9735

EMAIL: kanetskare@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/kanetskare

School Council Agenda: Thursday, October 23, 2025

- 1) Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Attendance
 - Introductions
- 2) Approval of September Minutes – attached
 - Additions and Approval of Agenda
 - Choose a secretary for the evening
- 3) Meeting Agenda
 - Feedback and outcomes on the two events held:
 - Fuel for Kids, September 24
 - 50th School Anniversary & Open House
 - PRO Grant
 - Ideas
 - Deadline – November 21
 - Submission – maximum funding is \$1,000
 - Fundraising and School Events
- 4) Principal's Report
- 5) Teacher's Report: Clubs and Teams, School activities
- 6) Hamilton Recreation Report
- 7) PIC Update - Cindy
 - Deferred to next meeting
- 8) Adjournment & Next Meeting:
 - Meeting dates for the rest of the school year

Kanétskare School Council

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2025

Attendance: Jennifer Walsom, Helen Burnett-Nichols, Tiffany Herron, Esme Rambert, Natacha DaSilva, Cindy Stranak, Meaghan Eisenberg, Louai Moghrabi, Jen Castle-Timms, Pam Ekins, Joanne Hall (Principal) Janine Durajlija (Staff Representative)

1) Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Attendance

Land acknowledgement was read and attendance was taken.

Joanne started the meeting by mentioning all that was accomplished thanks to our council and parent support last year – we built a better sense of community, Give Read Grow campaign that brought in books for classrooms and novel studies, Kanetskare café, Scholastic Book Fair.

Money we raised paid for new furniture that's being enjoyed by students, painting and branding in front entrance and hallways. Money raised moving forward will go back to technology.

2) Election of Council

We discussed positions that are needed for the School Council:

Chair: Jenn Walsom opened the floor to anyone wanting to express interest in acting as the Chair for the upcoming year. As no one stepped forward, she offered to continue as Chair but also encouraged others to think more about the position.

Vice Chair: Cindy Stranak has passed the torch over to Meaghan Eisenberg.

No treasurer is needed and it was decided that we would all take a turn at taking minutes for Kathy.

3) Meeting Agenda

Fuel for Kids – Ms. Zacharidis discussed this fundraising event – Wednesday September 24th 4-7pm

- Every year Fortinos adopts a school and this year they have chosen Kanetskare (Joanne mentioned that Ms. Zacharidis is responsible for this wonderful connection!) Fuel For Kids is a fundraiser where 100% on the money raised goes directly back to our school. Professional race car driver Shawna Woudstra will be at the school on Wednesday afternoon (last period of school) to showcase her 1,400- horsepower dragster car.

- After school there will be a BBQ at Fortinos along with additional activities (temporary tattoos, henna, cupcake station, facepainting). The school will purchase supplies for tattoos, cupcakes/decorations, and facepaint). Hotdog, drink, chips will be sold for \$5.
- Some teachers have volunteered to come and help BBQ.
- We need parents help – Natacha DaSilva will make a signup.com for volunteers, Meaghan will post on Kirkendall Facebook, Helen will post on Durand Facebook, Cindy will post on Strathcona Facebook. Students are wanting to help too.
- Joanne said that we could bring the new banner which was to arrive on September 19th.

50th School Anniversary & Open House, Thursday October 16th, 4-8pm – Esme Rambert

- Galaxy Burger food truck has been confirmed (Rachel Rochweg worked very hard securing this) and she is looking for a Halal option as well.
- Market will be happening in the gym – small community businesses will be showcased (food, art, vintage)
- Joanne is organizing the archival display by decades and time capsule will be revealed.
- There will be a DJ (Lauren Baker and Stuart Berman)
- Scholastic Book Fair (Jen Castle-Timms – responsible for setting up sign up sheet and gathering volunteers for 1 hour time slots) Helen and Pam have offered to help
- We will be advertising on HWDSB and other Facebook site, flyers will be ready soon and then can be distributed and posted.
- Meet the Teacher portion will be from 5-6:30pm
- We will set up a parent council table to hand out flyers and Esme will make a poster for the table. Tiffany has offered to woman the table.

4) Principal's Report

- We have 460 students this year up from 410 last year. There are 18 classes each with 26-28 students each. 2 portables have been added.
- As a Council, we may want to advocate to the trustee for more staff and a vice-principal
- There was a Welcome Back assembly (they hosted 2 since they cannot fit all the students in the gym at the same time)
- They discussed the Big 6 – Be on time, be prepared, be safe, be focused, be present, be respectful. It was well received.
- Cindy Stranak mentioned that the park construction isn't to begin until April. Joanne thought later this fall but the City has to give them 2 weeks' notice as they have to adjust their nutrition break schedules.

5) Teacher's Report

- Janine Durajlija provided the update- Cross country club and baseball are happening right now and they are planning on starting a cooking club.
- Grade 6's had their play day and Grade 8's led it.
- Teachers are meeting on September 19th about clubs/sport clubs/intramurals.

5) PIC Update

- Cindy Stranak – the Pro Grant deadline is November 21st and we should all come to the October meeting with ideas to present to the Council. Last year's event was not well attended and it was decided that we should not do another speaker event. It needs to engage parents but kids are allowed to attend. Joanne suggested a mindfulness or yoga focused event or inviting a Math or Literature facilitator
- Cindy briefly discussed Bill 33 being passed on September 29th and how this will take power away from trustees. If this is a concern we should individually contact MPP.

6) Adjournment

The next meeting will be October 23rd at 6:30pm and we will decide if a November meeting is needed at that time.